

# THE CAPTAIN OF the KANSAS

By LOUIS TRACY.

Author of "The Wings of the Morning," "The Pillar of Light," Etc.

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## CHAPTER XIII—CONTINUED (From Last Saturday)

"Elsie," he said, "you believe in the efficacy of prayer, don't you? Well, then, pray now a little. I shall be glad to think when this time of danger has passed that we owed something to your invocation."

It was in his mind that he must shoot her within a few seconds, and the immeasurable agony of the thought reflected itself in his face. He had no notion that she would give his words a more direct significance than he intended them to bear. But a strange, hoarse yell of triumph, the war cry of an Alaculof leader who had hauled himself to the bridge and found it undefended, warned her in the same moment that all was not well with the defense.

She sprang toward the salon stairs. "Do you hear that?" she cried in a ringing voice. "There are Indians on board. Come! We must not stay here when our friends are fighting for their lives."

Christobal knew that this active girl would readily outstrip him in a race to the deck. She was already several feet distant, but he must detain her, no matter what the cost. If she fell into the clutches of the Indians then overrunning the Kansas she might not be killed, but only wounded, and her sufferings would be inconceivable ere the end came.

"You are wrong," he shouted, with convincing vehemence, "but if you wish to see for yourself at least allow me to go first."

While he was speaking he ran forward. She thought he meant what he said and waited for him. Then he caught her right arm firmly in his left hand.

"Let us wait here a moment or two," he breathed.

"No, no! I am going now. You shall not hold me back. You don't understand. The man I love is up there, perhaps surrounded by savages. Let me go, I tell you! If he is dying I shall die by his side! Let me go! Would you have me strike you?" She turned on him like an angry goddess and strove to wrest herself from his grasp. At that instant Tollenmache and Frascuelo, the only survivors of the deadly struggle forward, were driven back by a rush of Indians. They caught sight of others leaping down the bridge companion.

"To the salon, Courtenay!" roared Tollenmache, clearing a path for himself with an iron bar which he swung in both hands. Followed by Frascuelo, he jumped inside the salon gangway. Four savages followed, two entering through the doorway behind him. One raised a hatchet-like implement and would have brained the Englishman and not Christobal whipped out his revolver and shot him through the body, releasing the girl's wrist in his grasp. The Indian pitched headlong down the stairs, falling limply at Elsie's feet. The stooped over the terrifying figure and seized the man's weapon. Her eyes shone with a strange light. She felt her arms tingle. A wonderful power seemed to flow through her body, like a gust of strong wine. She was aware that she, unaided, could best down all the puny, despicable creatures who barred the path to her lover.

She vaulted over the writhing form of the Alaculof and made to climb the stairs, but Christobal, admirably cool, freed again and brought another Indian to his knees. The second Indian's fall caused Frascuelo to trip, and the Chilean, locked rib to rib with a somewhat sturdy opponent, rolled into the salon. Elsie drew back just in time or the two men would have knocked her down. Even as they were spinning over on the steep steps she saw Frascuelo's knife flash. At the foot of the stairs the Indian lay still, and Frascuelo tried to rise. She helped him gladly. The awfulness of this killing no longer appalled her. Each dead or disabled Indian was one less obstacle between her and Courtenay. A third time the revolver barked, but Christobal missed. It did not matter greatly, as Tollenmache had shortened his bar, using it twice as a ulner dexter at a rock. But the doctor did not forget that he had only three cartridges left, two of which were bespoken long before the fight began.

At last, then, the way was clear. Elsie would have mounted the stairs, but an appealing hand detained her.

"I cannot walk, senorita. My leg has given way. And we can do no good there. They are all down."

A death chill gripped her heart at Frascuelo's words.

"All down?" she repeated, white-lipped.

"I think so," said he blankly. The man was dazed by the ordeal through which he had passed.

As if to answer and refute him, Joey's hysterical yell sounded from a point close at hand, and they distinctly heard Courtenay's loud command:

"This way, Boyle! Rally to the bridge!"

"You are mistaken!" shrieked Elsie, wrenching herself free from the Chilean's grasp. Nothing short of violence would stop her now. Tollenmache darted out into the darkness, and she mounted the steps two at a time. Christobal pointed by her side. He was de-

necessity, he would drag her away from any doubtful encounter on the battlements of the deck. But his blood was aflame now with the lust of combat. He wished to the fighting rather than by a scalding bullet.

They were not yet clear of the door way when an extraordinary burst of shooting and shouts in English and Spanish mingled their wondering cries. The sound seemed to come from the ship. A loud hubbub arose among the Indians, Courtenay, clanking his gun, rushed past, with the dog at his heels and ran up the bridge companion. They could follow his progress as he raced toward the port side, and they heard his amazed cry:

"What boats are those?"

"Your own captain," came the answering yell, plainly audible above the din.

"That is Mr. Gray?" screamed Elsie and she, too, ran toward the bridge with the doctor close behind.

"Sink every canoe you can get along side of and knock those fellows on their heads who are swimming!" roared Courtenay, who was so carried away by the fierceness of the fight from which he had just emerged that he would have aimed the same directions to the archangel Michael had that warrior spirit come to his aid.

He seemed to have eyes in the back of his head, he turned so suddenly when Elsie heard him.

"Ah, thank God, you are safe!" he said, drawing her to him for an instant. "Stand there, dear heart!"

He placed her in the forward angle of the bridge rail and leaned out over the side. She understood that she must not speak to him then, but a great joy overwhelmed her, and her eyes melted into tears.

Christobal, who had missed no word of Elsie's frenzied protest in the salon, nor failed to note the manner of Courtenay's greeting, seemed to take the collapse of his own aspirations with the unmoved stoicism he had displayed in the face of danger.

"The ship's boats," he began, and twice aft alongside the side of the vessel. Cries of pain and a good deal of splashing in the sea proved that he had expedited the departure of several Indians who were perched on the rails beyond the reach of Walker's steam jet.

"The ship's boats," went on Christobal calmly, "have turned up in some mysterious manner, just in the nick of time. A few minutes more and they would have been too late."



The Indian pitched headlong down the stairs, falling limply at Elsie's feet.

When a more extended knowledge of all that had happened, joined to a clever adjustment of the time factor in events, enabled Elsie to realize the extraordinary deliverance from death which she had been vouchsafed that night she began to appreciate the service which Christobal rendered her in discussing matters with such nonchalance.

Barely a minute had elapsed since they were in the throes of a struggle which promised to be the last act of a tragedy. The ship was then overrun by a horde of howling savages, maddened by the desperate resistance offered by the defenders and ruthless as wolves in their lust for destruction. Now the Kansas was clear of every debaucher Alaculof save the many who cumbered the decks either dead or so seriously wounded that they could not move. These men were so near akin to animals that this condition implied ultimate collapse save in a few instances of fractured skulls and broken limbs. From the final stage of a hopeless butchery the survivors of the ship's company were suddenly transferred to a position of reasonable security. It was not that the arrival of the ship's boats meant such an accession of fighting strength that the Ala-

cus could not have made sure of victory. Gray and his companions were badly armed. The Indians remaining in the canoes could have pelleted them to shreds in a few minutes. Even those on the ship had the power to resist any attempt by the newcomers to gain the decks. But the superstitious savages had already screwed themselves up to an act of unusual daring in delivering a night attack, and the appearance of boats filled with men of whose fighting qualities they had already such a lively experience quite demoralized them. They did without attempting a counter assault.

At last the sounds of conflict died away. The black waters closed over the dead; the last swimmer vanished into the silence. The spasmodic backing of the dog, the groaning of men lying on the decks and the shouts exchanged between Courtenay and Gray for the guidance of the boats were the only remaining symbols of the fiercest crisis which had yet befallen the Kansas.

Elsie, wandering through a trance-like maze of vivid impressions, awoke with a start to the fact that Courtenay was giving directions for the lowering of the ship's gangway, meanwhile receiving information as to the identity of the boats beneath.

"Mr. Malcolm is in charge of the jolly boat," Gray was saying. "Miss Baring and Mr. and Mrs. Somerville are with him. Miss Baring's maid is dead. Senior Jerrera is in my boat. No. 2. We have been on White Horse Island all this time, but we have seen nothing of the other lifeboat."

That meant that two boats out of those which quitted the ship had arrived thus opportunely. Senior Jerrera was the Spanish mining engineer who had been hustled into one of the craft manned by the mutineers. And Christobal was saying:

"Well, Miss Maxwell, you and I can look forward to a long night. The ship is littered with wounded men, and our newly arrived friends must be worn with fatigue."

His smooth, even sentences helped to dispel the stupor of amazement which had made her dumb. And the first reasoned thought which came to her was that the Spanish doctor had treated her with the kindness of an indulgent parent, for Elsie was far too unselfish not to be alive to the usefulness of others.

"How good you have been to me!" she murmured. "I can never repay you. I remember now that I said dreadful things to you in the salon. But you did not know what it meant to me when I realized that Captain Courtenay might be falling even then beneath the blows of those merciless savages. I have not had a chance to tell you that he has asked me to be his wife and I have consented. I love him more than all the world. And you, Dr. Christobal, you who knew my father and mother, who have grown up daughters of your own, you will wish me happiness?"

It was not easy to bear when it came, although he had guessed the truth already. But he choked back the wrath and despair which surged up in him and said, with his stately courtesy:

"I do wish you well, Elsie. No man can hope more earnestly than I that you have made the better choice."

Then he turned with a certain abruptness which reminded her of the change in his manner she had noticed once or twice during recent days and quitted the bridge. She sighed and was sorry for him, knowing that he loved her.

Courtenay, who had been far too busy to pay heed to anything beyond the brief fight between the boats and the canoes, perceived now that the gangway was in position. Lights were shining on both the upper and lower platforms.

He stretched out his hand and drew Elsie to him.

"Are you alone, sweetheart?" he asked.

"Yes."

"Kiss me, then, and go to meet your friends. They will be aboard in less than a minute. Oh, Elsie, I thought I had seen the last of you!"

"Was it so bad as that?" she murmured, a great content soothing her heart and brain at her lover's admission that he was thinking of her during the worst agony of the fray. He gave her a reassuring hug.

With her soul singing a canticle of joy, she passed from the bridge to the lower deck. Mr. Boyle was waiting there, holding a lantern.

"Huh!" he growled when he saw her. "I guess you'll believe what I tell you before your hair turns gray. If not sooner. Luck! Did any man ever have such luck as the skipper? Why, if he fell off Mong Blong he'd find a circus net rigged up to catch him."

"I agree with you so fully, Mr. Boyle," she whispered, "that I am going to marry him."

"I guessed as much," he answered. "At any rate, I fancied it wouldn't be for want of axin' on his part."

It was a wain and broken spirited Isobel whom Elsie led to her cabin, but notwithstanding her wretched state her eyes quickly took in the orderly condition of the room.

"I left my clothes strewn all over the floor," she said, with a nervousness which Elsie attributed to the hardships she had undergone. "Why did you trouble to pack them away?"

Then Elsie told her of her hunt for the powder box and was so obviously unconcerned about any incident other than the adventures they had both experienced since they parted that Isobel questioned her no further. A bath and a change of clothing worked marvels. Though thin and weak for want of proper food, neither Isobel nor Mrs. Somerville had suffered in health from the exposure and short fare involved by life on the island. It was broad daylight ere they could be persuaded to retire to rest, there was so much to tell and to hear.

(Continued Next Saturday)

## BY AUTHORITY

Notice is hereby given that the land described in the following Schedules will be open for applications, under Part 6, Land Act 1895, (Sections 286 to 312 inclusive, Revised Laws of Hawaii), for Homestead Leases, at and after nine o'clock A. M., Wednesday, January 27, 1909, at the office of the Sub-Agent, Sixth Land District, (which said office will be established for that day), at the Court House, Kapaa, Kauai.

SCHEDULE "A"			
KAPAA FLAT KULA LOTS			
Lot No.	Area.	Lot No.	Area.
8. 7500 Sq. Ft.	13. 7500 Sq. Ft.	10. 7500 Sq. Ft.	15. 7500 Sq. Ft.
9. 7500 Sq. Ft.	14. 7500 Sq. Ft.	11. 7500 Sq. Ft.	16. 7500 Sq. Ft.
10. 7500 Sq. Ft.	15. 7500 Sq. Ft.	12. 7500 Sq. Ft.	17. 7500 Sq. Ft.
11. 7500 Sq. Ft.	16. 7500 Sq. Ft.	13. 7500 Sq. Ft.	18. 7500 Sq. Ft.
12. 7500 Sq. Ft.	17. 7500 Sq. Ft.	14. 7500 Sq. Ft.	19. 7500 Sq. Ft.

SCHEDULE "B"			
MAUKA KAPAA KULA LOTS			
Lot No.	Area.	Lot No.	Area.
7. 1.6 Acres	17. 2.2 Acres	27. 0.9 Acres	
8. 1.3 Acres	18. 2.2 Acres	28. 1.9 Acres	
9. 2.8 Acres	19. 3.1 Acres	29. 1.8 Acres	
10. 1.0 Acres	20. 2.6 Acres	30. 1.4 Acres	
11. 1.7 Acres	21. 3.0 Acres	49. 1.9 Acres	
12. 0.8 Acres	22. 1.2 Acres	50. 1.4 Acres	
13. 1.0 Acres	23. 1.4 Acres	51. 1.9 Acres	
14. 1.2 Acres	24. 1.1 Acres	52. 1.6 Acres	
15. 1.9 Acres	25. 4.1 Acres	54. 1.5 Acres	
16. 3.2 Acres	26. 4.3 Acres	55. 1.0 Acres	

SCHEDULE "C"			
MAUKA TARO LOTS			
Lot No.	Area.	Lot No.	Area.
7. 0.8 Acres	19. 0.9 Acres	38. 1.0 Acres	
8. 1.0 Acres	20. 0.7 Acres	39. 0.9 Acres	
9. 1.0 Acres	21. 0.9 Acres	40. 0.8 Acres	
10. 0.8 Acres	22. 1.0 Acres	41. 1.0 Acres	
11. 0.9 Acres	23. 1.0 Acres	42. 0.96 Acres	
12. 1.0 Acres	24. 1.0 Acres	43. 0.7 Acres	
13. 0.9 Acres	25. 1.0 Acres	44. 0.6 Acres	
14. 0.8 Acres	26. 1.0 Acres	45. 0.6 Acres	
15. 0.9 Acres	27. 1.0 Acres	46. 0.85 Acres	
16. 0.6 Acres	28. 1.0 Acres	47. 0.5 Acres	
17. 0.9 Acres	29. 1.0 Acres		
18. 0.9 Acres	30. 0.9 Acres		
	37. 0.9 Acres		

All applications for said lots are to be made in person by the applicant, at the office of the Sub-Agent of the Sixth Land District.

Maps and further information may be obtained upon application to E. G. K. Deverill, Sub-Agent, Sixth Land District, or at the office of the undersigned, Judiciary Building, Honolulu.

At the same time and place, there will be sold at public auction, under the Provisions of Part 5, Land Act 1895, (Sections 278 to 285 inclusive, Revised Laws of Hawaii), General Leases of the following described lands.

MAUKA TARO AND KULA LOTS			MAUKA TARO AND KULA LOTS		
Lot No.	Area.	Upset Annual Rental.	Lot No.	Area.	Upset Annual Rental.
1.	1.5 Kula		32.	4.0 Kula	
1-A.	1.5 Wet	\$18.00	31-A.	1.0 Wet	\$31.00
2.	4.6 Kula		33.	8.5 Kula	
2-A.	1.0 Wet	\$3.40	34.	1.1 Wet	\$6.50
3.	3.4 Kula		35.	4.4 Kula	
3-A.	1.0 Wet	\$5.60	36.	3 Wet	\$6.10
4.	2.5 Kula		37.	4.2 Kula	\$6.80
4-A.	1.0 Wet	\$5.00	38.	4.3 Kula	\$17.20
5.	2.1 Kula		39.	5.0 Kula	\$20.00
5-A.	1.0 Wet	\$3.40			
6.	1.9 Kula				
6-A.	1.0 Wet	\$2.60			
			38 & 40.	1.5 Kula	
			32-A.	33-A.	36-A.
			37-A.	3.7 Wet	\$61.50

KAPAA FLAT AGRICULTURAL LAND

Lot No.	Area.	Upset Annual Rental.
4. 1.75 Acres	Agricultural land	\$30.00 per annum
5. 2.0 Acres	Agricultural land	
6. 2.3 Acres	Swamp land	\$5.00 per annum
7. 1.2 Acres	Agricultural land	
8. 4.0 Acres	Waste land	\$20.00 per annum
9. 5.8 Acres	Agricultural land	
10. 3.60 Acres	Swamp land	\$30.00 per annum
11. 1.11 Acres	Agricultural land	
12. 1.71 Acres	Swamp land	\$5.00 per annum

Rental payable semi-annually in advance.

Term of lease, five (5) years from date of sale.

The following lots will also be sold under General Leases.

IMPROVED AND UNIMPROVED LOTS ON KAPAA FLAT.

Block.	Lot No.	Area.	Upset Annual Rental.
"A"	2.	18440 Sq. Ft. and Improvements	\$25.00
	3.	17275 Sq. Ft. and Improvements	25.00
	4.	21500 Sq. Ft. and Improvements	25.00
	5.	24000 Sq. Ft. and Improvements	18.00
"B"	8.	11250 Sq. Ft. and Improvements	18.00
	9.	14400 Sq. Ft. and Improvements	18.00
	11.	12825 Sq. Ft. and Improvements	18.00
	12.	11900 Sq. Ft. and Improvements	18.00
"C"	13.	13790 Sq. Ft. and Improvements	18.00
	1.	23600 Sq. Ft. and Improvements	20.00
	3.	6318 Sq. Ft. and Improvements	15.00
	6.	8280 Sq. Ft. and Improvements	50.00
"G"	2.	11290 Sq. Ft. and Improvements	30.00
	3.	8490 Sq. Ft. and Improvements	75.00
	5.	9670 Sq. Ft. and Improvements	60.00
	1.	7000 Sq. Ft. and Improvements	15.00
"H"	2.	8630 Sq. Ft. and Improvements	25.00
	3.	6750 Sq. Ft. and Improvements	15.00
	1.	40500 Sq. Ft. and Improvements	125.00
	1.	22760 Sq. Ft. and Unimproved	24.00
"I"	3.	18000 Sq. Ft. and Unimproved	20.00
	5.	22500 Sq. Ft. and Unimproved	24.00
	8.	22500 Sq. Ft. and Unimproved	24.00
	11, 12, 13.	22500 Sq. Ft. and Unimproved	24.00
"J"	14, 15, 16.	22500 Sq. Ft. and Unimproved	24.00
	17, 18, 19.	25400 Sq. Ft. and Unimproved	30.00
	1.	19700 Sq. Ft. and Unimproved	22.00
	3, 4, 5.	22500 Sq. Ft. and Unimproved	24.00
"K"	6, 7.	15000 Sq. Ft. and Unimproved	18.00
	18, 19, 20.	22500 Sq. Ft. and Unimproved	24.00
	21, 22, 23.	22500 Sq. Ft. and Unimproved	24.00
	24, 25, 26.	22000 Sq. Ft. and Unimproved	24.00
"L"	1.	21200 Sq. Ft. and Unimproved	24.00
	3, 4, 5.	22500 Sq. Ft. and Unimproved	24.00
	6, 7.	15000 Sq. Ft. and Unimproved	18.00
	8, 9.	15000 Sq. Ft. and Unimproved	18.00

Rental payable semi-annually in advance.

Term of Lease, ten (10) years from date of sale.

Sub-Renting, sub-letting or assignment of any interest or right to occupy or use premises to be prohibited unless written permission is first obtained from the Commissioner.

Improvements to be maintained.

Lessee to pay all taxes assessed.

Reservations regarding land required by the Government for settlement or public purposes will be embodied in each of the above leases.

For maps and further information, apply to the Sub-Agent, Sixth Land District, or at the office of the undersigned, Judiciary Building, Honolulu.

At the same time and place, there will be sold at public auction, under Provisions of Part 4, Land Act 1895, (Section 276, Revised Laws of Hawaii), the following described lots:

KAPAA TOWN LOTS.			
Block.	Lot No.	Area.	Upset Price.
"A"	1.	1.9 Acres	\$450.00 including Improvements

6.	23750 Sq. Ft.	70.00 including Improvements
8.	17800 Sq. Ft.	55.00 including Improvements
2.	20250 Sq. Ft.	125.00 including Improvements
3.	12375 Sq. Ft.	90.00 including Improvements
4.	11250 Sq. Ft.	15.00 No Improvements
6.	15075 Sq. Ft.	100.00 including Improvements
9.	14625 Sq. Ft.	120.00 including Improvements
10.	11475 Sq. Ft.	95.00 including Improvements
14.	24975 Sq. Ft.	180.00 including Improvements
15.	20375 Sq. Ft.	700.00 including Improvements